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LETTER DATED 14 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF RWANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that the Rwandese Government and the Rwandese Patriotic Front have just drawn up a joint request, the text of which is annexed hereto, concerning the stationing of a neutral international force in Rwanda.

In this connection, the two parties agreed during the current peace negotiations in Arusha that the implementation of the peace agreement in Rwanda requires the deployment of a neutral international force as soon as the peace agreement is signed.

To that end, the two negotiating parties and the Facilitator, in the person of His Excellency the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, requested the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations to hold consultations in order to determine the modalities for their collaboration in establishing the neutral international force.

At a plenary meeting held on 6 June 1993, the Facilitator informed the two parties that the OAU Secretary-General had notified him that at the consultations between OAU and the United Nations it was decided that the United Nations should assume responsibility for and command of the neutral international force.

The two parties welcome this decision and agree that the United Nations should assume responsibility for and command of the neutral international force and they assure it of their complete cooperation.

In view of the foregoing and in order to make it possible to deploy the neutral international force as soon as the peace agreement is signed, the two parties request the United Nations to send a reconnaissance mission to Rwanda as speedily as possible in order to assess all the needs of the international force.

The parties consider that the reconnaisance mission can also, within the framework of preparing the operations to disengage the two forces involved in the conflict and on the basis of criteria that are already agreed, demarcate

assembly areas, identify the sites to be used as assembly points and billeting stations and also establish the security parameters for the cities of Kigali and Byumba. This mission will also have the task of estimating the size of the neutral international force to be deployed in Rwanda.

In the request contained in the annex, you will find the missions which the two parties are proposing within the framework of defining the mandate to be given to the neutral international force.

The two parties hope that the neutral international force will be deployed as quickly as possible after the signing of the peace agreement in order to permit its speedy implementation and, in particular, the establishment of a broad-based transitional government, thereby avoiding excessively long intervals, which might be detrimental to the peace process.

To this end, I shall appreciate the measures that you will consider within the Security Council in order to give an urgent response to this request so that the desired reconnaissance mission will be sent to Rwanda as soon as possible.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as documents of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean-Damascène BIZIMANA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Rwanda to the United Nations

Annex

Joint request by the Rwandese Government and the Rwandese Patriotic Front addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning the stationing of a neutral international force in Rwanda

The Government of the Rwandese Republic and the Rwandese Patriotic Front wish to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations that they agreed, during the current peace negotiations in Arusha, that the implementation of the peace agreement in Rwanda requires the deployment of a neutral international force as soon as the peace agreement is signed.

To this end, the two negotiating parties and the Facilitator requested the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations to hold consultations in order to determine the modalities for their collaboration in establishing the neutral international force.

At a plenary meeting on 6 June 1993, the Facilitator informed the two parties that the OAU Secretary-General had notified him that at the consultations between OAU and the United Nations it was decided that the United Nations should assume responsibility for and command of the neutral international force.

The two parties welcome this decision and agree that the United Nations should assume responsibility for and command of the neutral international force and they assure it of their complete cooperation.

In view of the foregoing and in order to make it possible to deploy the neutral international force as soon as the peace agreement is signed, the two parties request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to send a reconnaissance mission to Rwanda as speedily as possible in order to assess all the needs of the neutral international force.

The reconnaissance mission can also, within the framework of preparing the operations to disengage the two forces involved in the conflict and on the basis of criteria agreed upon by the parties, demarcate the assembly areas, identify the sites to be used as assembly points and billeting stations and also establish the security parameters for the city of Kigali as part of its neutralization in order to protect the transitional institutions. This mission will also have the task of estimating the size of the neutral international force to be deployed in Rwanda.

The two parties would also like to suggest that the neutral international force should be deployed as speedily as possible after the signing of the peace agreement. It would be desirable to consider in the interim the composition and effective deployment of the force, secondment of personnel from the various peace-keeping forces deployed elsewhere in order to permit the speedy implementation of the peace agreement and, in particular, the establishment of a broad-based transitional government, thereby avoiding excessively long intervals, which might be detrimental to the peace process.

In order to help the Security Council to define the mandate of the neutral international force, the two parties propose that the following missions should be assigned to it:

A. General mission

The neutral international force shall assist in the implementation of the peace agreement, more specifically by supervising the implementation of the protocol on the National Army, the National Gendarmerie and the other security services and by providing all forms of assistance to the authorities and competent bodies.

To this end, it will carry out the following missions:

B. Security missions

1. Guarantee overall security in the country and monitor, in particular, the way in which the authorities and competent bodies maintain public order;

2. Maintain security during the distribution of humanitarian aid;

3. Help to ensure the safety of the civilian population;

4. Assist in the search for weapons caches and in the neutralization of armed bands throughout the country;

5. Carry out mine-clearing operations;

6. Participate in the recovery of all arms distributed to, or illegally acquired by, the civilian population;

7. Monitor the observance by the two parties of the arrangements for a definitive cessation of hostilities as contained in the peace agreement.

C. Missions to monitor the formation of the National Army

1. Demarcate assembly areas and establish sites to be used as assembly points and billeting stations;

2. The neutral international force shall be responsible for preparing the assembly points and billeting stations. It shall receive and administer all the material and financial means required to carry out this task. Military camps may serve as assembly points or billeting stations provided that the two parties are so informed. These camps shall be monitored by the neutral international force and shall conform to the conditions established for other assembly points and billeting stations;

3. Establish security parameters for Kigali in order to ensure its neutralization;

4. Monitor:

   - The disengagement of forces, in particular the movement of troops to assembly points and of military personnel returning heavy weapons to billeting stations;

   - The conversion of military camps into assembly points and billeting stations;

   - Verification activities subsequent to these operations;

5. Ensure that discipline is observed by military personnel both within and outside assembly points;

6. Monitor the inventories of arms and munitions of the two parties as well as the separation of heavy weapons from light weapons;

7. Guard billeting stations and help guard depots of light arms and their ammunition at assembly points;

8. Supervise the identification of military personnel; this operation will be carried out at the various troop-assembly points;

9. Supervise the provision of supplies to troops at assembly stations; supplies shall be limited to non-lethal items;

10. Take part in the training programme for members of the new armed forces and provide security at training centres;

11. Supervise the demobilization of military personnel and gendarmes not retained in the new armed forces;

12. Evaluate the implementation of the training process and make recommendations to the broad-based transitional government, the High Command Council of the National Army and the Command Council of the National Gendarmerie.

The two parties should like to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations that they are sending a copy of this request to the Facilitator, His Excellency Ali Hassan Mwinyi, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, to the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and to the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, for their information.

The two parties take this opportunity to convey to the Secretary-General of the United Nations their great appreciation for the interest that he continues to show in the success of the peace process in Rwanda, and for his prompt attention to this request.

Done at Arusha, 11 June 1993.

For the Government of the Rwandese Republic:

(Signed) Boniface NGULINZIRA
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation

For the Rwandese Patriotic Front:

(Signed) Pasteur BIZIMUNGU
Member of the Executive Committee and Commissioner for Information and Documentation

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